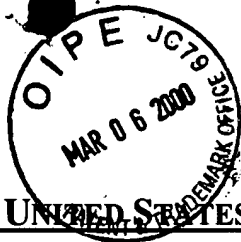


Gp3761



PATENT  
Docket No.: 45751USA6C.012

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JOSEPH P. KRONZER ET AL.

Serial No.: 08/661,834

Filed: June 11, 1996

For: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK

Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

MAR - 7 2000

RECEIVED

RK  
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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed December 07, 1999, applicants submit the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend Claims 25 and 32 as follows:

25. (twice amended) A fibrous filtration face mask for filtering contaminants and/or particulate matter, which comprises:

- E1
- (a) a means for securing the mask to the face of the wearer; and
  - (b) a non-woven fibrous layer attached to the securing means and containing (i) at least about 40 wt. % thermally bonding fibers based on the weight of the fibers in the non-woven fibrous layer, at least about 10 wt. % of the fibers in the non-woven fibrous layer being bicomponent fibers, and optionally (ii) staple fibers, the non-woven fibrous layer being molded in a cup-shaped configuration and having a surface fuzz value of not less than 7.5 after being subjected to a surface fuzz abrasion test, with the proviso that if the bicomponent fiber content is 85 weight percent or greater, then the surface fuzz value exceeds 8.0.